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Governor Walker Signs Two Bills in West Bend

Bills provide assistance to citizens struggling with substance abuse

Madison, WI – Senator Duey Stroebel (R-Cedarburg) joined Governor Scott Walker at the Old Courthouse in West Bend as the governor signed two key bills in fighting substance abuse.

Act 388 (Assembly Bill 657) increases funding for Treatment Alternatives and Diversion programs (TAD) by \$2 million.

"The TAD programs allow individuals charged with certain crimes to seek treatment – chief among the convictions are drug addicted offenders. With heroin a problem across the state, increased funding for these grants offer counties key alternatives to incarceration. When successful the TAD program saves incarceration costs; however, participants must continually be monitored to ensure this option is best for them and taxpayers," said Senator Stroebel.

Act 389 (Assembly Bill 839) offers an additional option for some convicted drunk drivers to participate in successful 24/7 sobriety programs. The participants must take breathalyzer tests twice a day or wear an alcohol monitoring bracelet in lieu of ignition interlock devices.

"This new law provides a needed alternative to ignition interlocks. Frequently, convicted drunk drivers need a more successful program to ensure absolute sobriety. This program requires 24/7 sobriety and frequent check-ins. Studies show treating the underlying drinking problem decreases recidivism," concluded Stroebel.

Stroebel also sends his gratitude to bill authors Senators Fitzgerald and Gudex with Representatives Nygren and Schraa.

Senator Duey Stroebel represents the 20th Senate District which includes parts of Ozaukee, Washington, Fond du Lac, Calumet and Sheboygan Counties.

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